

1.(Thrice Amended) A hand and forearm protector comprising:

a sleeve for overlying a forearm and a proximal hand portion of a wearer;

a primary opening at one end of the sleeve;

a single discrete digit opening disposed at another end of the sleeve wherein all of the wearer's  
fingers extend therethrough, wherein the sleeve extends to a point adjacent a first set of  
knuckles of the wearer's fingers, leaving the knuckles exposed [the  
sleeve extends past the set of joints of the metacarpals and the phalanges to a point  
adjacent a first set of joints of the phalanges <sup>which</sup> ~~which~~ are adjacent to the set of joints of  
the metacarpals and the phalanges of the wearer's fingers, leaving the joints of the  
phalanges exposed];

a discrete thumb opening disposed at another end of the sleeve wherein the sleeve extends to  
the joint of the thumb closest to the fingertip leaving the joint exposed [wherein the  
sleeve extends beyond the joint of the phalanges and first metacarpal and is adjacent to  
the joint of the phalanges, leaving the joint exposed];

a longitudinal opening along the sleeve extending adjacent from a point that overlies a juncture  
of the carpal bones and the radius and extending rearwardly towards the primary  
opening to proximately the end of the sleeve; and

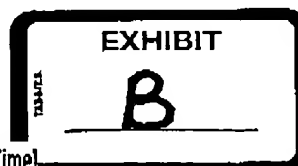
a zipper for closing the longitudinal opening to conform the sleeve to the forearm of the wearer,  
the closure being disposed to overlie a forward side of the forearm.

2. The protector of claim 1 and further including a protective flap that extends between edges of  
the opening protecting the wearer from being pinched by the zipper.

3. (Amended) The protector of claim 1 wherein [the sleeve extends to] the length of the sleeve is  
selected to extend to approximately 1 to 1½ inches from an elbow of the wearer.

4. The protector of claim 1 wherein the sleeve includes decorative indicia on an uninterrupted

surface



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15. The protector of claim 1 wherein the sleeve extends to a first joint of the thumb, leaving the joint exposed.X

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5/6. The protector of claim 1 wherein the sleeve extends to a point adjacent a first knuckle of the fingers and thumb, leaving the knuckles exposed.